

Project Subject/Title: Mechanical Site Preparation

County: Washburn

TRS: various sites

Contact Person: Jim Halvorson, 715-635-4081

Type Of Prescription: Scarification

Year Initiated: 2000

Abstract/Prescription:

Utilizing various tools for scarification can be beneficial for comparison. In Washburn county scarification using both straight blade and a Salmon Blade were compared on a 12 acre paper birch shelterwood site. The scarification was done in July of 2000. Millacre plots were conducted the following year in August. A salmon blade was fabricated by welding metal shoes onto the dozer blade. See photo enclosed.

Discussion/Recommendations:

The salmon blade was very successful. It manages to mix the mineral soil especially necessary for paper birch seed bed preparation. In this trial, regeneration stocking inventory a year later produced the following statistics:

- Salmon blade site = 6076 trees per acre or 77% stocked
- Straight Blade site = 3750 trees per acres or 56% stocked

The salmon blade has been used on various sites across the county. It is beneficial in mixing the soil needed for seed bed preparation.

See enclosed document and picture



